

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 RSC-01 /012 R

66601

DRAKTED BY: ARA/USOAS:WAMOFFITT:VFH

APPROVED BY: ARA/USOAS:MR. MCNEIL

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R 141543Z FEB 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 030122

STADIS//////////

LIMDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT CARACAS 1394 ACTION SECSTATE, FEBRUARY 13TH:

QUOTE

DEPT PASS OTHER ARA DIPLOMATIC POSTS, IF DESIRED

E.O. 11652: GJS

TAGS: OCON

SUBJ: PRESENTATION OF SECRETARY'S LETTER RE MEXICO

CITY CONFERENCE TO FONMIN CALVANI

1. I CALLED THIS AKTERNOON (FEB 13) ON THE FOREIGN MINISTER WHO WAS ACCOMPANIED BY FORMER AMBASSADOR SOSA, WHO WILL ALSO BE A MEMBER OF VENEZUELAN DELEGATION AT MEXICO. THIS PLEASED ME SINCE SOSA HAS A MUCH BETTER COMMAND OF ENGLISH TO SAY NOTHING OF AN UNDERSTANDING OF AMERICAN WAYS OF OPERATION THAN HAS HIS FOREIGN SECRETARY.

2. CALVANI SAIJ HE WAS GREATLY PLEASED BY SECRETARY KISSINGER'S LETTER AND WOULD ANSER IT BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE TOMORROW KOR SANTO DOMINGO AND MEXICO. HE SAIJ THAT UPON ARRIVAL AT MEXICO CITY HE WOULD AT ONCE GET IN TOUCH WITH AMBASSAJOR JOVA; AND I TOOK OPPORTUNITY AS AUTHORIZED BY
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ASSISTANT SECRETARY KUBISCH AT OUR LIMA MEETING TO

SAY SECRETARY WOULD BE PLEASED TO CALL ON CALVANI IN MEXICO ON WEDNESDAY, FEB 20, AT 6:30 P.M. THIS ALSO GREATLY PLEASED CALVANI, WHO SAID HE WILL BE LODGED AT THE HOTEL PASO REAL.

3. I WENT OVER THE SUMMARY TALKING POINTS GIVEN ME BY MESSRS. KUBISCH AND EATON AT LIMA AND FOUND IT USEFUL ALSO TO MAKE SURE THAT AMBASSADOR SOSA UNDERSTOOD THEM. THE KOREIGN MINISTER HAD NO OBJECTION TO OUR BASIC VIEWS ALTHOUGH HE DIJ TRY TO MAKE A NITPICK WITH REFERENCE TO THE "INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM" THAT NEITHER GUYANA (VENEZUELA'S LITERAL BETE NOIR) NOR THE BAHAMAS ARE TECHNICALLY MEMBERS OF THE OAS.

4. WHEN IT CAME TO OUR PREFERRED FORMAT, I MADE IT SEEM AS IF SUGGESTED ARRANGEMENTS FOR SPEECHES AND ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION WERE IJEAS EMANATING FROM OUR MEXICAN HOSTS. HOWEVER, ID DIJ MAKE IT CLEAR THAT SECRETARY IN HIS OPENING SPEECH THOUGHT IT RIGHT TO TAKE UP THE EIGHT POINTS OF THE BOGOTA MINISTERS AGENDA AND SPEAK ON THEM SERIATIM.

5. TO THIS CALVANI REPLIED WASPISHLY, "THIS WILL MAKE IT ANOTHER OAS CONFERENCE(IT WILL BE JUST LIKE ROGERS MAKING ANOTHER LONG SPEECH AND THEN LEAVING THE MEETING." I POINTED OUT THAT IN LOGIC (AND WE MUST NEVER FORGET THAT WITH CALVANI, LOGIC IS HIS STRONGEST WEAK POINT), IT WAS ONLY REASONABLE TO EXPECT OUR SECRETARY OF STATE TO RESPOND TO THE EIGHT POINTS WHICH HAD BEEN PUT TO HIM BY HIS OTHER HEMISPHERIC COLLEAGUES. TO THIS CALVANI WAS FORCED TO AGREE. HOWEVER, HE IS HIGHLY FEARFUL OF SET SPEECHES AND OF THE RISK THAT THE MEXICO MEETING MIGHT TURN INDEED TO BE ANOTHER OAS CONKERENCE IN A NEW SETTING WITH THE MEXICANS INSISTENT ON REACHING AN "ACTO OF TLATELOLCO."

5. I REMINDED FONMIN OF HIS REMARKS TO ME OF LAST WEEK THAT AT SUCH A MEETING THE MODUS OPERANDI WAS PERHAPS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS THE SUBJECT O DISCUSSION; AND HERE HE WENT OVER AGAIN HIS DESIRE THAT IN SECXXRET SESSION THERE BE A FRANK CONFIDENTIAL

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ROUND TABLE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITHOUT SET SPEECHES AND WITHOUT THE CONTENTION OF DEBATE. I POINTED OUT (PARA TWO OF TALKING POINTS) THAT WE WELCOMED THE FACT MEETING EVIDENTLY WILL BE SO STRUCTURED THAT WE CAN SPEAK INFORMALLY AND KRANKLY WITH EACH OTHER. I WOULD THINK IN THIS REGARD THAT IK SECRETARY MEETS WITH CALVANI ON EVENING OF FEB 20 JUST BEKORE MAIN CONFERENCE OPENS ON THE FOLLOWING DAY, IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO REACH A MEETING OF THE MINDS AS TO TACTICS AND THE PROPER

STRUCTURING OF A ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION WHICH, AS CALVANI POINTED OUT, DID NOT NECESSARILY HAVE TO LEAD TO KORMAL RESOLUTIONS OR FINAL ACTS. HE SAID, "IK WE CAN GET A CONSTRUCTIVE DISCUSSION GOING, EVEN THOUGH THE MEETING MAY END BY A FIXED DATE, THERE IS NO REASON WHY THESE CONVERSATIONS SHOULD NOT CONTINUE AT SOME LATER TIME UNTIL THERE IS AMEETING OF MINDS OR AT LEAST AN UNDERSTANDING AS TO WHERE OUR DISAGREEMENTS LIE."

6. I SAID THAT SINCE AMBASSAJOR SOSA WAS NOT LEAVING FOR MEXICO UNTIL FEB 17, IF CALVANI DID NOT OBJECT I WOULD BE GLAD ONCE MORE TO GO OVER WITH SOSA SOME ASPECTS OF THE ENERGY CRISIS SO FAR AS I UNDERSTOOD THEM. IN THIS RESPECT IK DEPARTMENT HAS ANY SPECIAL WORD WHICH IT WOULD KIND CONVENIENT FOR ME TO PASS ON TO SOSA, WHO WILL BE CALVANI'S PRINCIPAL ADVISER, NOT ONLY ON ENERGY BUT ON THE ENTIRE MEXICO MEETING, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO HAVE THESE VIEWS NO LATER THAN KEB 16.

7. CALVANI DEPARTS TOMORROW FOR SANTO DOMINGO AND BY SEPARATE TELEGRAM WE ARE SENDING FLIGHT INFORMATION. MCCLINTOCK UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE030122
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740232/aaaabdsl.tel
Line Count: 137
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 SEP 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <09 DEC 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESENTATION OF SECRETARY'S LETTER RE MEXICO CITY CONFERENCE TO FONMIN CALVANI
TAGS: OCON
To: MEXICO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005